GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:21
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2016
Drought in States
Ram Shri Vishnu Dayal;Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of drought prevailing in various parts of the country, if so, the details thereof along with districts identified/declared drought affected, State-wise;

(b) the details of the funds demanded, allocated and released by the Union Government to various drought affected States during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether there has been some delay in the release of allocated funds to the States, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor and the time by which the fund is likely to be released to these States;

(d) whether the Government has prepared any contingency plan to deal with the drought caused by weak monsoon and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government is considering to introduce a standard administrative unit for declaration of drought and assessing crop yield and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
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(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 21 DUE FOR REPLY ON 26TH APRIL, 2016.

(a): The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. Government of India supplements efforts of State Government with financial assistance and logistic support. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government in accordance with established procedure.

During the year 2015-16, Karnataka (both for Kharif and Rabi), Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan, had submitted Memoranda on drought seeking financial Assistance from NDRF. Details regarding the number of districts declared drought affected by these States are at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c): The details regarding funds demanded and approved during last three years to various drought affected States are at Annexure-II.

During 2015-16, the net amount to be released after adjustment of that SDRF balance available with these states is Rs. 10,275.48 crore., of which Rs.6055.08 crore was released to the States by 31.3.2016, and the remaining Rs.4220.40 crores was released on 08.04.2016.The Central Government has further released total of Rs.2551.875 crore as first installment of the central share in the SDRF to the 10 drought affected States for 2016-17.
Contdâ€¦2/-

(d): Ministry of Agriculture through ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad has prepared detailed Crop Contingency Plans for 600 districts. States have been advised for updating Contingency Plans for each district wherever required in consultation with ICAR-CRIDA and the State Agriculture Universities and to prepare location specific remedial measures based on these contingency plans in the event of late arrival of Monsoon/long dry spells/scanty rainfall/drought conditions. These plans are available at the website of Dept. of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture as well as Central Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad.

(e): The Manual for Drought Management 2009 recommends rainfall deficiency, extent of area sown, normalised difference vegetative

index and moisture adequacy Index, as the four standard monitoring tools which could be applied in combination for drought declaration. However it is the State Governments that take the decision on the most appropriate administrative unit and the parameters for the declaration of drought.